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\*Story on/re DHS at this spot

# Articles in Today's Clips

**Friday, October 6, 2006**

(Be sure to maximize your screen to read your clips)

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## Trial breaks with mom blaming dad in killing

**BY JACK KRESNAK**  
FREE PRESS STAFF WRITER

*October 6, 2006*

LANSING -- Exhausted jurors who sat through nearly five hours of a digital video recording of police interrogating Lisa Holland six months after she and her husband falsely reported that their son Ricky had run away caught a break Thursday.

Late Thursday morning, Ingham County Circuit Judge Paula Manderfield sent them home, with instructions to return at 8:45 a.m. Monday.

Lisa Holland's attorneys, Andrew Abood and Mike Nichols, asked for a continuance in the trial that began Sept. 11, saying there was new information, apparently revealed by Holland's 37-year-old husband, Tim Holland, during an interview with Ingham County Assistant Prosecutor Mike Ferency on Saturday.

Ferency gave Abood a copy of a tape recording of Holland's two-hour interview Wednesday, but Abood said he needed more time to review it. Ferency did not object.

Holland pleaded guilty Sept. 5 to second-degree murder in the death of the couple's 7-year-old adopted son, Ricky, and is expected to testify next week against his wife. She is charged with open murder and first-degree child abuse in the boy's death in July 2005.

The recording of Lisa Holland's Jan. 26 interview with Ingham County Sheriff's detectives Brian Valentine and Roy Holliday was played for the jury Wednesday and Thursday. Much of it was tedious. Many times, Holland, 33, did not directly answer questions about what happened to Ricky.

During part of the recording, Holland is alone. While looking over a map brought in to help pinpoint where Ricky's body might be, she cradles her head and says, "Damn."

The recording does not show her confessing to having killed Ricky, but it contains statements in which she suggests her husband is culpable.

"I'm not the monster that he" -- her husband, Tim Holland -- "is portraying," she said.

Among other statements:

"I think Tim did it."

"I am not taking the rap for something he did."

The recording ended abruptly with 38 minutes left. The judge had earlier ruled that portion inadmissible.

Contact **JACK KRESNAK** at 313-223-4544.

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Published October 5, 2006

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## Holland trial postponed until Monday

Midday update

By Kevin Grasha  
Lansing State Journal

Lisa Holland's murder trial has been postponed until Monday after attorneys said there is new information that needs to be evaluated.

Authorities on Saturday interviewed Tim Holland - who has pleaded guilty to second-degree murder in the death of the couple's adopted son Ricky - and he provided new information, Assistant Prosecutor Mike Ferency said today in court.

A forensic pathologist, Dr. Joyce deJong, is expected to update her opinion about Ricky's cause of death based on Tim Holland's recent statement, Ferency said.

Lisa Holland is charged with murder and child abuse in Ricky's death.

Earlier today, more of a video recording of a Jan. 26 interview Lisa Holland gave to police was played for the jury.

"I'm not taking the rap for something he did," Lisa Holland told police, referring to her husband Tim Holland.

Lisa Holland was being held at the Ingham County Jail on charges she assaulted her husband when asked to meet with detectives in January, saying she was concerned the couple's four young children were about to be placed with Tim Holland's family.

The trial is in its third week.

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Published October 6, 2006

## New info on Ricky given to police

Cause of death may be amended after interview with Tim Holland

By Kevin Grasha  
Lansing State Journal

A weekend interview with Tim Holland has yielded new information about how his 7-year-old adopted son Ricky was killed, prosecutors said Thursday.

A forensic pathologist is expected to update Ricky's cause of death based on what Tim Holland told authorities Saturday, Assistant Prosecutor Mike Ferency said.

He did not provide details.

That revelation led Ingham County Circuit Judge Paula Manderfield to postpone Lisa Holland's murder trial until Monday.

Tim Holland pleaded guilty Sept. 5 to second-degree murder in Ricky's July 2005 death.

He is expected to testify next week against his wife, Lisa, who is charged with murder and first-degree child abuse.

The trial is in its third week.

Ferency has turned over videotape of the more than two-hour interview with Tim Holland to defense attorneys, who asked that the trial be postponed so

### What's next

- Lisa Holland's murder trial continues Monday before Ingham County Circuit Judge Paula Manderfield. Expected to testify are Ingham County sheriff's Detective Brian Valentine and a state police forensic scientist.

#### Trial recap

Week 1, Sept. 18-22:

- In opening arguments, prosecutors say the case against Lisa Holland is about manipulation, deception and concealment. Defense attorneys counter the prosecution's key witness, Tim Holland, is not credible and his guilty plea was intended solely to protect himself.
- A Jackson County social worker testifies that in February 2001, Ricky said Lisa Holland tied him up at night. The social worker filed a report with Child Protective Services, but the report was not substantiated.
- Jackson school officials testify the Ricky they knew was not the same boy described and often disparaged by Lisa Holland.
- Testimony also reveals Ricky was removed from elementary school by his parents after it was determined he did not qualify for the special education services.

Week 2, Sept. 25-29:

- Investigators found tiny blood stains in several rooms of Tim and Lisa Holland's Williamston home, a state police forensic scientist testifies.
- A new portrait of Lisa Holland emerges in court: A loving mother who frequently called her family physician with child-rearing questions. But testimony also revealed a doctor last saw Ricky on Sept. 20, 2002.
- Lisa Holland's hairdresser testifies that as hundreds of people searched for Ricky in early July 2005, Holland told her "she just needed to go on with her life."
- A Williamston neighbor who lived across the street from the Hollands describes an incident in May 2005 when he found Ricky in his kitchen. "They don't want me anymore," the neighbor testifies Ricky said.

This week:

- A former Ingham County Jail inmate testifies Lisa Holland told her Ricky made her angry, so she threw a

they can review the new information.

Also Thursday, prosecutors continued playing a video- recorded Jan. 26 interview with Lisa Holland. Jurors began watching the video Wednesday.

In the video, Lisa Holland sits at a table in a cramped interview room. She is surrounded by bare, white walls.

### 'I'm not taking the rap'

"I'm not taking the rap for something he did," Lisa Holland told Ingham County Sheriff's Detective Brian Valentine during the interview, referring to Tim Holland.

hammer at the boy's head. She then picked it up and hit Ricky again.

- A nurse at Ricky's Jackson elementary school testifies she reported suspected abuse to Child Protective Services at least twice.

- A second jail inmate testified Lisa Holland confessed to killing Ricky. But Holland's defense attorneys focus on how Tim Holland lied to investigators several times in the case, including in a Jan. 27 statement to police during which he told authorities Lisa killed Ricky by striking him with a hammer.

- A video recorded interview of Lisa Holland talking with police is played for the jury, during which Lisa speculated her husband might tell police that she hit Ricky and that he then fell into a wall.

At the time of the January interview, Lisa Holland was being held at the Ingham County Jail on charges she assaulted her husband. She asked to meet with detectives, saying she was concerned her children were about to be placed with Tim Holland's family.

She denied abusing Ricky or any of the couple's four young children. Three of the children are Ricky's siblings whom the Hollands also adopted.

"I've never hit my kids with anything," she said, adding that her husband "has a tendency to fly off the handle."

Two women who were held at the Ingham County Jail with Lisa Holland have testified this week that she confessed to accidentally killing Ricky by striking him with a hammer. Tim Holland also told a similar story to police.

### Casting blame

Toward the end of the 5 1/2-hour interview, Lisa Holland asked for Detective Lt. Roy Holliday, who directed and coordinated the investigation into Ricky's disappearance.

With Holliday in the room, she began to reveal more about what she knew, but then hesitated: "If I say what I'm going to say, I'm never going to see (my children) again."

Holliday asked her to continue.

"I think Tim took (Ricky) out of the house," she said as she began to describe the night of July 1.

She said her husband told her Ricky had thrown up in his bedroom. He then asked her to bring garbage bags, telling her not to go into Ricky's room.

Later, Tim Holland emerged from the room carrying garbage bags, she said.

"Do you think Tim killed Ricky?" Holliday asked.

"I think he did," she said.

Prosecutors have said Lisa Holland was trying to shift the blame for Ricky's death to her husband.

Contact Kevin Grasha at 267-1347 or [kgrasha@lsj.com](mailto:kgrasha@lsj.com).

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## Comstock Park: Social worker ready to help

Thursday, October 05, 2006

By Matt Vande Bunte

The Grand Rapids Press

PLAINFIELD TOWNSHIP – Got a problem with a classmate? Fine, school counselors are up to the task. But what about when you've got problems with family finances, critical illness or mental health?

A professional social worker is standing by this year at the Comstock Park school district, ready to help students and their families hook up with a range of health and wellness services before they suffer academic damage.

The district is taking part in a three-year pilot program for the Kent School Services Network, a \$2.1 million effort aimed at improving attendance and learning readiness by meeting a variety of family needs.

"They bring (problems) to school with them and that makes it difficult to succeed in the classroom," said Ron Koehler, director of communications for the Kent Intermediate School District, one of several agencies in the network.

The network's goal is to boost student achievement by eliminating barriers to learning. Comstock Park was chosen as a test site to model service delivery in a suburban setting. The Godfrey Lee Early Childhood Center in the Godfrey Lee district and six Grand Rapids schools also are taking part in the program.

If successful, the pilot could expand countywide.

In Comstock Park, a "resource connector," social worker Julie Ludema, has been stationed at Pine Island Elementary School, which will serve as the district hub. Her job will be to assess the special needs of students across the district, refer them for help and follow up to make sure services are provided.

"This makes the connection between the school and the vast array of services," said former school board President Sharon Loughridge, executive director of DA Blodgett for Children, the agency that hired Ludema.

Jan Fetrow, Pine Island principal, said teachers' concerns about particular students will be passed along to a school counselor. The counselor then would refer more complex issues to Ludema, who can connect families to outside service providers.

One or two financial independence workers from the Department of Human Services are expected to arrive in Comstock Park this winter. A Spectrum Health nurse, Tina Rodriguez, will come on campus Oct. 16.

"The beauty of that is parents don't get lost in the system and they have those services right at hand," Fetrow said. "It's bringing the service closer to the community."

Participating agencies are contributing money to the program, along with a \$486,000 grant from the Grand Rapids Community Foundation. Comstock Park is contributing \$15,000 toward salaries for this year and providing two office areas with computer and telephone hookups and furniture.



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## Ludington Daily News

Posted: 10-5-2006

### Agencies see red ... tape from state in new program

By JOE BOOMGAARD

Daily News Staff Writer

Local agencies want to make it easier to give seniors information about long-term care service options, but they claim a recent Department of Community Health decision sends them off course.

They say DCH's revision to their collaborative plan adds red tape.



The Area Agency on Aging of West Michigan, Senior Resources and Department of Human Services directors from a 12-county region in western Michigan partnered to take part in a Single Point of Entry demonstration project, which was awarded a grant of up to \$9.15 million.

The SPE program would provide information and counseling to seniors to help guide them into one of several long-term care options that best fits their needs, according to AAAMW Executive Director Tom Czerwinski, who spoke Tuesday to the Mason County Board of Commissioners. The SPE would combine the efforts of the member agencies in a money-saving move to provide one-stop service for seniors, rather than having individual agencies providing disparate services.

The agencies and community stakeholders worked out a proposal in which AAAMW, DHS, and Senior Resources were all involved in providing the counseling services. Upon review of the proposal, the Department of Community Health required all four of the SPE projects to be similarly structured. Part of the requirement included the establishment of a separate non-profit group to coordinate the SPE project — which could contract with the other agencies for the services they would have provided in cooperation under the proposal.

The groups allege DCH's changes address consumer advocacy but do not allow for additional funding to provide direct services.

"The original west Michigan SPE proposal reflected the collaborative efforts of key community stakeholders to form a governance structure ... to create a horizontally integrated system," said Bob Shrauger, a member of the Senior Resources board, in a Sept. 13 letter to Gov. Jennifer [Granholm](#). "The 150 collaborative partners in the west Michigan proposal saw the SPE expanding service to the people while coordinating the fragmented system, not duplicating it with a separate, costly and more distant agency."

"The state required we establish a separate non-profit organization to be the single point of entry," Czerwinski said. "We proposed using all three, (but the state) believes AAA(WM) has a conflict of interest. ... Because we operate the waiver program, they think we are going to steer seniors into the waiver and not tell them about home health care or (other options)."

See RED TAPE, page A8

## RED TAPE

Continued from page A1

Czerwinski said other techniques exist to safeguard against problems, techniques that are less costly and bureaucratic.

"We're concerned about adding a whole other layer of bureaucracy," said Nancy Sterk, Mason/Oceana DHS director, who also spoke at the meeting. "We want to work with the (original) agreement. It's very unfortunate that DHS is in such conflict with another state department. We want to see this succeed. They're not allowing for collaborative work without establishing another entity to muck things up."

DCH spokesperson Geralyn Lasher said creating more red tape was not the agency's intent in modifying the program.

"It certainly was not our intention," Lasher said. "We wanted to assure individuals of all ages that they will have access to information on long-term care. We want to make sure we do away with the confusion. We are really genuinely trying to streamline the process. In general, we wanted to make sure these locations had consistent tools available for them in each of the four locations. We want them to provide consistent services."

And in providing consistent service, Lasher said the agency needed the assurance that there were no conflicts of interest in the program so that people using the SPE service would get accurate information.

"From our perspective, in all locations, we needed to assure customers there would be no conflict of interest between (the service provider and the single point of entry," Lasher said. "We determined that the separate entity that was created under the proposal provided the customers no conflict of interest between the group performing the service and the group serving as a single point of entry. We needed to make sure we had a firewall between the provider and the single point of entry."

DCH's changes to the proposal also allowed for up to 81 administrative positions, none of which are in service delivery, to be created out of the grant funds, Sterk said.

"We told (DCH) that we didn't want or need all that administration," Sterk said.

Sterk and representatives from the other agencies proposed using the left over funds for administrative positions to expand the service package.

"The Office of Long-Term Care Supports and Services revised plan allows for increased advocacy efforts to make consumers aware of all their care options yet provides no additional funding to provide direct services to those consumers who do access the SPE," Shrauger stated in his letter. "Consumers who make an informed choice may very well be told their choice is not available because there is yet no state provision for Medicaid money to follow the person. Consumers will then have to re-visit their options which will cause increased confusion and frustration."

Sterk was at the meeting to encourage the board to put its support behind the original proposal and express displeasure with DCH's changes, while Czerwinski made it clear that he wanted to move forward within the state's guidelines, however much the agencies disagreed about it.

"I want to stay in the game and work together to get this money," Czerwinski said. "If we withdraw support and the state took us up on the offer and removes funding, it puts us in a weaker position. We have a greater chance of success if we are a pilot SPE program."

Sterk and Czerwinski encouraged the board to voice its support of the SPE program.

"You should stay the course and tell the state to provide more funding for service and listen to the local community," Czerwinski said. "The state is dictating too much of this."

The Mason County Board of Commissioners on Tuesday voiced its support of the groups' efforts and the SPE program and asked Mason County Administrator Fabian Knizacky to draft a resolution to be considered at the board's next

meeting on Tuesday.

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# Niles Daily Star

ONLINE EDITION

[Print Page](#)

Vigil remembers victims of domestic violence

By MARCIA STEFFENS / Niles Daily Star  
*Thursday, October 5, 2006 10:41 AM EDT*

EDWARDSBURG - At a church named Hope, many gathered to remember those who died from domestic violence.

The actions of abusers were hard to understand to vigil attendees. Of the victims named, two were 2-year-olds - one from Niles whose head was hit so hard he hemorrhaged, another from Cassopolis, whose head was crushed by an ashtray.

Becky Stowe, 15, from Niles and Deborah Roberts, 33, of Vandalia, were both killed by boyfriends. Roberts left behind two children.

These deaths, a few of the many whose names were read during the moving ceremony, were caused by their own fathers.

To some of those standing and holding candles, these were just names, but to others, they were a mother, a father, or a child.

"They are not just names," said Jason Ronning, chief assistant prosecutor. His tale of the death of Austin Singleton, 2, of Niles, who was brought to the Cassopolis Family Clinic by his father, Donald Parks, "consumed me personally" he added. "Take note when you get to that name."

The law enforcement officers, court officials, legislators, ministers and advocates who work with battered women in attendance take time out each year to remember those whose lives ended in violence.

State Representative Rick Shaffer asked the community to "keep your eyes and ears open" to domestic violence.

Teresa Lewis, a domestic violence survivor who works with other victims, said sometimes the victim can't make the call herself.

"The hardest thing I ever did was pick up that phone and call 911. If he beat me because supper wasn't done - what would he do. That's the reality," she said.

"She's not capable to call the police. Her self-esteem is so low," she said. "People say 'Why don't you just leave?' It's not that easy."

The comments are like "preaching to the choir," said Pastor Melodye S. Rider of the Marcellus United Methodist Church, still the dead haven't been forgotten.

The theme of this year's vigil was Domestic Violence: A Crime Against The Community, This Community Says No! The awareness event was sponsored by the Cass County Task Force on Family Violence, the Domestic Assault Shelter Coalition, Cass County Prosecutor's Office and the Cass County Youth Committee.

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Article published Oct 6, 2006

## **Woman arrested for domestic violence**

An Iosco Township woman was arrested for domestic violence after allegedly throwing a glass of water in her husband's face.

Livingston County sheriff's deputies said the woman, whom they did not identify, admitted that she and her husband were arguing about 3:40 p.m. Sept. 24 at their Kane Road home when she threw the water in his face.

She claimed her husband grabbed her, threw her on the floor and sat on her while her 13-year-old son called 911.

The husband, however, said he restrained his wife after she struck him on the head with a picture frame.

Additional details were not released.

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**ourMidland.com**  
from the Midland Daily News

10/05/2006

## People gather to promote domestic violence awareness

[Angela E. Lackey](#)

Walking in the cold mist, Bonnie Jones placed a pair of brown hiking boots on the Midland County Courthouse steps.

"We need to educate our whole population on what is domestic violence," Jones said later. "And we can't stand by in silence when we see or suspect abuse."

The boots belonged to Jones' daughter, Tina Jones of Hope Township, who was a homicide victim as well as a victim of domestic violence. Jones and about 50 other people gathered in front of the courthouse Wednesday to help make people aware of the problems of domestic violence. The rally was sponsored by Shelterhouse/Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

Sharon Mortensen, Shelterhouse director, said domestic violence can be anything from controlling behavior to emotional, verbal and physical abuse.

"Thousands of women living in domestic violence might call it hell," she said.

Sheriff Jerry Nielsen said law enforcement is the one line of defense against domestic violence.

"We are the witnesses to the hell. It's hard on us, too," he said.

But there's hope, he added. Nielsen said domestic violence was considered a "family issue" in the past. Law enforcement could only take a report and forward it to the prosecuting attorney.

He said laws passed through the work of Shelterhouse have made domestic violence a "societal issue."

Judge John H. Hart of the Midland County District Court said domestic violence victims say they are "coming back from a very cold place." He spoke of one young woman who returned to her abuser and said a support network can help people in that "cycle of violence."

"It's up to us to step in and interfere with that cycle," Hart said.

Prosecutor Mike Carpenter said it's important to convey this message: "It is not OK to hit."

Chief Jim St. Louis of the Midland Police Department said once children leave a violent home, they often do not leave the violence.

"It's not over for them," he said.

As it's not over for Bonnie and Tom Jones.

"We didn't realize there had been a history of abuse until the coroner's report," Bonnie said.

Bonnie said the family has tried to find a "new normal."

"Our lives have been examined every day," she said, but there is no normal.

"Closure is a fantasy. There will never be closure," Bonnie said.

But she's determined it doesn't happen to anyone else, through educating people about domestic violence.

Part of that includes this year's focus of Domestic Assault Awareness Month of October, which is encouraging coworkers to ask further questions when they believe someone they work with might be a victim of violence and to encourage the person to report domestic violence to officials.



Shielded by umbrellas and raincoats, more than 50 people gathered on the steps of the Midland County Courthouse on Wednesday to stand against domestic violence. The group placed 216 pairs of shoes on the front steps to symbolize the number of women and children who sought shelter at Shelterhouse this past year.

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## NEWS IN A MINUTE: Wayne County

*October 6, 2006*

### **DETROIT: Domestic violence symposium is set to begin today**

The Council of Clergywomen of Metropolitan Detroit is holding a two-day Domestic Violence Tutorial Symposium beginning today. Participants will learn how to avoid becoming victims of domestic violence, and intervention and support services for those who have been victimized will be provided.

The symposium is being held in conjunction with the Mayor's Office of Faith-based Affairs.

The symposium will begin at 5 p.m. today at the Russell Street Baptist Church, 8700 Chrysler Service Drive. Saturday's events, which will begin at 8 a.m., will be held at the First Congregational Church, 33 E. Forest Ave. For more information, call 313-833-3970 or 313-318-8724. The registration fee is \$25.

### **DETROIT: Walk to aid fight against breast cancer is on Oct. 14**

The American Cancer Society will hold its ninth annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk at 9 a.m. Oct. 14 at Belle Isle Park in Detroit. Last year, the walk raised more than \$625,000.

Donations will be collected at the walk or may be made online at [www.cancer.org/stridesonline](http://www.cancer.org/stridesonline). Registration for the 5-mile walk begins at 8 a.m. For details, call 248-557-5353 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays or visit the Web site.

### **NORTHVILLE TOWNSHIP: Oktoberfest to feature food, games and more**

A Northville Township park will be transformed into a Bavarian village next week for Oktoberfest, the township's first.

The event, presented by the Northville Chamber of Commerce, will be held from 6 to 11 p.m. Oct. 13 and noon to 11 p.m. Oct. 14 at Millennium Park on 6 Mile between Sheldon and Beck roads.

The event will feature German food, a beer tent, music, wagon rides, carnival games and arts-and-crafts vendors. Admission is free. You must be 21 to enter the beer tent, and there is a \$2 charge.

For more information, call the chamber at 248-349-7640, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays, or go to [www.northville.org](http://www.northville.org).

### **DEARBORN: Find out what your antiques are worth**

The Museum Guild of Dearborn will host an antique appraisal clinic from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at the McFadden-Ross House, located at 915 Brady.

The event is organized by the DuMouchelle Certified Auctioneers and Estate Appraisers in Detroit. Cost is \$10 per written appraisal. Participants can bring up to five handheld items; no musical instruments or weapons are allowed.

Admission will be on a first-come, first-served basis, and participants must register by 3:30 p.m.

### **GROSSE ILE: Education foundation gears up for pig roast**



The Grosse Ile Educational Foundation Inc. will present its third annual Pig Roast Party at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 14 at Centennial Farm, 25795 Third St. Tickets are \$35 per person and include dinner, bonfire and live entertainment. Tickets can be purchased at Nate's, 7560 Macomb; Grosse Ile Hardware, 7737 Macomb, and at all schools.

*Compiled by Marisol Bello, Korie Wilkins and other Free Press staff.*

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10/04/2006

## **New logo, same caring organization**

**The Huron Daily Tribune**

Earlier this week at the Huron County Child Abuse/Neglect Council annual meeting, board members and supporters gathered to get a view of the council's new logo: the name featured with a smile being drawn with a crayon.

John Paul, vice-president of marketing for Signature Bank and a CA/N Council supporter, said it represents the outcome of what the council is doing — to have a happy child. He added the smile is not complete because "our job is not complete."

Signature Bank's marketing team created the new logo. And Huron County CA/N Council President Elizabeth Weisenbach said the council has been discussing the need for a new, more customized and unique logo for a few years.

The CA/N Council is a group of professionals, parents and volunteers who have joined to sponsor programs that prevent the abuse and neglect of children through awareness and education. All monies raised in the county stay in the county to fund local programs. The CA/N Council is a member of the Michigan Children's Trust Fund, a chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America. Each year, the Huron County CA/N Council receives \$10,000 from the trust fund.

It's great to see this group continuing to better itself and investing in area children, as well as programs designed to help them.

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## Muskegon Chronicle

### Suspect had troubles, co-workers say

Thursday, October 05, 2006

By Heather L. VanDyke

#### CHRONICLE STAFF WRITER WITH WIRE SERVICE REPORTS

As the prosecution proceeds in the 1979 slaying of a Muskegon woman, former co-workers of suspect Arthur "Carl" Paiva say they remember him as a likable "loner" who was drowning in personal problems.

Today, James "Bubba" Nelson, a suspect in the Janet Chandler murder case, was in a West Michigan jail after being transported from West Virginia.

Five people have been charged in Chandler's slaying. They allegedly arranged a party at a house in Holland Township where Chandler was raped, tortured and killed, her body later dumped in a snowbank in Covert.

A witness told authorities Nelson, 59 -- "the one who really tormented me" -- sexually assaulted her and threatened to harm her if she said anything, she said.

She said Paiva told her: "If I ever tell anybody, that nobody would even know that I existed." Paiva, of Muskegon, has denied having anything to do with Chandler's abduction, rape and slaying.

Paiva spent several years working for Betten Auto Center in Grand Haven as a service consultant until one day he just stopped coming to work, according to his former boss Jerry Kukulski, of Grand Haven Township. Paiva worked at the auto center from 1994 to 2002, according to court records.

"He did a good job. He had a good following and seemed to relate to the older people. He was empathetic with them. But with his personal problems, he missed a lot work," Kukulski said.

Kukulski said he spent little time outside of work with Paiva, but described him as "laid back" and easy to talk to.

Another service consultant at the auto center, John Van Dyke, who spoke to a Chronicle reporter by phone Monday, said he and Paiva worked "side by side" for years.

"He was my partner for two and a half years. He was pleasant and decent to work with. There was a couple of times he lost his temper a little bit (with the customers). He was a little on edge at times, and a little brief," Van Dyke said.

Van Dyke said Paiva used to call in sick frequently, until one day he just didn't come back to work at all.

"He was a loner and I know he drank. He would call in sick for days on end. He left one day and never called and never returned," Van Dyke said.

Paiva is currently lodged in the Allegan County Jail awaiting an Oct. 27 preliminary examination. He is being represented by Floyd Farmer, a Spring Lake attorney, who declined to comment for this story.

Among the allegations are that Paiva, one of five people charged last week in Chandler's death, saved incriminating photos snapped by another guard at a 1979 party where Chandler was killed.

Paiva told a Chronicle reporter recently that he had no involvement in Chandler's death. Paiva, who lived alone in an upstairs apartment at 1905 Miner in Muskegon, was the security guards' supervisor and stayed in a Chemtron Corp.-owned guest house, where police say the murder took place. He said he did not attend the party the night Chandler died.

Since his arrest, those who worked with him have felt a collective "shock" at the possibility Paiva is somehow connected to Chandler's death. When Paiva was arrested and photos of Paiva began to appear on television and across the front page of a local newspaper his former employees were in disbelief.

"When I saw his name and picture on the TV, the name 'Arthur' didn't mean anything to me. I always knew him as 'Carl,' " said Ken Mulder, who worked with Paiva in the auto center's parts department. "But then I recognized the photo. My wife looked at me and said I was white. I had to take it all in."

Mulder said he recalls how Paiva was constantly struggling financially.

"There was a crisis all the time," Mulder said.

He claims Paiva's wages were being garnisheed for ever-increasing amounts of child support and debts to various collectors. Paiva has two children: A 22-year-old daughter and a 20-year-old son. Both still live in the Muskegon area.

"I used to think, 'Poor guy, things keep getting worse,'" Mulder said. "He never had any money."

As a service consultant, Paiva "is the first person you would see" when dropping off a vehicle to be serviced. He was in charge of taking personal information of customers -- including addresses, telephone numbers and credit card numbers -- and entering it into the computer system, Kukulski said.

After the recent allegations about Paiva became public, Mulder said he began to feel uneasy.

"My biggest fear now is if he did do that (to Chandler), what if he would have done it again?" Mulder said.

Muskegon County Circuit Court records show a litany of legal problems for Paiva, including a long list of now-closed civil cases that include landlords/tenant issues, an unpaid \$3,000 dental bill and an outstanding \$2,000 "retail account" bill.

His ex-wife, Barbara Paiva, of 1880 Southwood, had also requested an increase in child support in 2000. Paiva had been paying \$25 a week in child support in 1994, but in 2000 that amount increased to \$106 a week.

Barbara Paiva has declined to comment for this story. The couple wed in March 1984 and she filed for divorce in August 1993, the court file shows.

Paiva's financial situation was perplexing to those who worked with him.

Van Dyke claims Paiva had received a significant amount of money in a legal settlement at one point after losing three fingers in a factory accident.

Paiva told a Chronicle reporter that prior to his arrest he had struggled with a 25-year addiction to pain pills. Van Dyke said he may have begun taking the pills as a result of the factory accident.

The latest accounts from his former co-workers somewhat contradicts the way Paiva had been characterized by his Lakeside neighbors who knew him as the friendly gas station clerk. Paiva had worked for the Lakeside BP gas station for years before it closed in August.

Several morning "regulars" and his former employer at the gas station have described him as pleasant and eager to help others. They seemed shocked he had been arrested.

Police say they have sufficient "probable cause" to file murder charges against Paiva and have testimony that contradicts his version of events.

His girlfriend at the time has testified at a probable cause hearing that Paiva had attended the party.

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## **OMNICARE SETTLES CIVIL CASE WITH STATE FOR \$52 MILLION**

**Gongwer News Service**

**Oct. 5 ,2006**

With the head of the state's largest long-term care pharmacy still facing more than 148 counts of Medicaid fraud and racketeering – the most prevalent case of its kind in Michigan history – the pharmacy's parent company, Omnicare, Inc., has settled a civil case with the state worth \$52.5 million, Attorney General Mike Cox and Department of Community Health Director Janet Olszewski have announced.

The civil suit and settlement were filed with the Ingham County Circuit Court on Thursday.

The settlement is the largest Medicaid fraud recovery in the state's history, Mr. Cox said. Under the negotiated agreement, Omnicare will pay a little over \$17 million in Medicaid reimbursement, approximately \$34 million in penalties, \$1 million for public service announcements related to the state's drug pricing [website](#) and \$300,000 to cover the state's cost of the investigation.

Mr. Cox has called for the creation of the drug pricing website since 2004, and it went live on the Community Health website over the summer, said Cox spokesperson Rusty Hills, but hasn't received much attention. Mr. Cox would also like to see the list of prescription drugs listed on the website expanded in the future from the approximately 30 that are on there now to better help consumers, Mr. Hills said.

Specialized Pharmacy Services, the subsidiary of Kentucky-based Omnicare that provides 75 percent of the prescription drugs used in Michigan's long-term health care facilities, also had to sign off on a two-year corporate integrity agreement that requires the company to hire a compliance officer, provide new training to employees and make changes to billing practices. If the agreement is violated, the company will be required to pay liquidated damages.

Daniel Lohmeier, head of Specialized Pharmacy and an Oakland County resident, has two cases related to those charges pending before Judge David Jordon. Preliminary hearings have been scheduled on those cases for December 13 and 14 in the 54B District Court in East Lansing. Mr. Cox said should Mr. Lohmeier be found guilty, he could face a sentence of five to 20 years in prison.

In exchange for all of this, the settlement does not include any findings of wrongdoing on the behalf of Omnicare or any admission of liability by the company.

A release from the company stated that it, along with the pharmacy, cooperated fully with the investigation and voluntarily settled with the state in order to avoid, "expensive and time-consuming litigation and to focus on its mission of providing high-quality pharmaceutical care for the frail elderly," noting that, "patient safety was never an issue."

JPMorgan Chase & Co. reacted to the Michigan news by saying the settlement is good news for Omnicare stock as the value fell in line with what was predicted (the company had set aside \$54

million for damages) and that it reduces the risk of additional negative headlines for the company. However, it did mention the company has other legal proceedings still pending.

Omnicare is also under investigation in New York for billing irregularities, has paid more than \$1 million in fines in Maine after switching patients to more expensive medications and been raided by Ohio's attorney general in relation to possible Medicaid fraud relating to equipment sales. The company is also reserving funds to fight accusations in Massachusetts that it replaced some of its prescription drugs with cheaper formulas.

The three-year inquiry involving Community Health, the attorney general's office and Federal Bureau of Investigation, found that from 1999 through 2005 the pharmacy improperly billed for medication that it dispensed in unit doses, failed to credit the state for prescription drugs that were not consumed by Medicaid recipients, wrongly billed Medicaid for medications for patients with terminal illnesses who were in hospice and incorrectly billed Medicaid for drugs prescribed to beneficiaries who were deceased.

Specialized Pharmacy owns facilities in Grand Rapids, Livonia and West Branch.

Ms. Olszewski said Community Health staff discovered the fraud while doing a routine review of the Medicaid program.

"Today truly marks a win for the taxpayers of the state," she said during a Lansing press conference. "Governor Jennifer Granholm has made combating Medicaid fraud a priority."

Mr. Cox said that the settlement should convey to Wall Street and the shareholders of Omnicare that Michigan is serious about tackling the issue of Medicaid fraud.

"I fervently hope the criminal charges that are pending and this settlement send a message to Omnicare or anyone who would walk the path they walked," he said, adding that the status of the company as being among the Fortune 500 did not protect it. "I won't call it corporate greed, but it's gross corporate misconduct."

While thanking the cooperative work of his office with Community Health, Mr. Cox also said that his office too has been aggressive with fighting Medicaid fraud, adding that over the past three years \$80 million in fraud recoveries has come in the 25 years before that the state only collected \$25 million.

The bulk of the settlement monies, \$43 million, are expected to be paid to the state on Tuesday. The remainder will be paid in installments of \$2 million over the next three years.

# **State Gets \$52.5 Million Settlement**

MIRS, Thursday, October 5, 2006

The state has reached a \$52.5 million settlement with Michigan's largest medication supplier to long-term care facilities in what is being dubbed the largest Medicaid fraud recovery the state has ever received.

State officials filed a civil suit against Specialized Pharmacy Services (SPS) and its parent company, Omnicare, Inc., after an extensive investigation found that from 1999 to 2005 the company defrauded Medicaid by as much as \$17 million.

Investigators found SPS improperly billing medication, failing to credit Medicaid for drugs that were not consumed by Medicaid beneficiaries and billing Medicaid for medication dispensed to dead beneficiaries.

"This landmark settlement would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of the Department of Community Health's audits who discovered these illegal schemes," said Department of Community Health (DCH) Director Janet [OLSZEWSKI](#). "Thanks to our work with the Attorney General's Health Care Fraud Division, not only is Specialized forced to pay back what they stole, they will also pay the taxpayers of the state of Michigan over \$30 million in penalties."

DCH, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of the Inspector General and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) all helped in the investigation.

The settlement states that the company must pay back the \$17 million plus an additional \$34 million in satisfaction of penalty claims. By October 10, the state will get \$43 million and \$6 million will be paid in installments of \$2 million over the next three years. The parties also reached an agreement on \$3.5 million related to hospice claims, which will be outlined in a separate agreement.

Attorney General Mike [COX](#) said this about the case:

"Companies and individuals who refuse to abide by the law will be vigorously pursued. Today's action represents my commitment to the citizens of Michigan to continue to combat fraud and protect the public."





## Program to help kids with a parent in prison

Thursday, October 05, 2006

**By Jeff Alexander**

**CHRONICLE STAFF WRITER**

About 100 Muskegon County children who have a parent in prison will soon get help from volunteer mentors, thanks to a \$321,000 federal grant.

The Muskegon Community Health Project received the three-year grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, said U.S. Rep. Pete Hoekstra.

The grant will allow the Health Project and other local groups -- including West Michigan Therapy, Men and Women of Character, Big Brothers/Big Sisters and the Responsible Fathers Initiative -- to develop a mentoring program for up to 100 children who have a parent in prison.

Other programs have paired local children of inmates with mentors, but the new program is the most ambitious local effort to help those kids succeed.

"A child with a parent who has been incarcerated increases their risk of dropping out of school and following a dangerous path in their lives," Hoekstra said in a statement. "Positive adult role models help to provide them with the support they need."

There are an estimated 900 children in Muskegon County with at least one parent in prison, according to the Health Project.

Children of prisoners face an increased risk of substance abuse, poor health, problems in school and mental illness, according to Health Project officials.

"Leaving a child with an incarcerated parent on their own creates too many opportunities to make bad choices," said Vondie Woodbury, executive director of the Health Project. "The goal of the mentoring program is to strengthen the successful development of these children by providing adults who can help through a stressful time in their lives."

Mentors will assist children with homework, take them out for recreational activities and "generally serve to provide positive experiences in the absence of the incarcerated parent," according to a Health Project statement.

The Health Project hopes to pair mentors with 50 children of prison inmates this year. The program will focus on children whose parents are within a year of being released, said Peter Sartorius, development director at the Health Project.

Sartorius said the group hopes to expand the program to work with 100 children by 2008 and possibly more in the future if it can line up additional funding and volunteer mentors.

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Published: Thursday, October 05, 2006

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By PATTY RAMUS

## Judge finds probable cause in Peasley CSC case

A Wilson Township man could stand trial in Alcona County for criminal sexual conduct allegations involving a 16-year-old Alpena youth.

Judge James Cook ruled Wednesday in the 81st District Court there is probable cause on CSC in the third degree, CSC in the fourth degree and attempted CSC third degree against 50-year-old Alan Peasley for the case to move forward to a trial.

"I support the credibility ... of the witness," Cook said. "We're satisfied venue was established and probable cause was established."

One of Peasley's original charges had been assault with attempt to commit penetration. Thomas Weichel, Alcona County prosecuting attorney, made a request to have Peasley also bonded to the 23rd Circuit Court for attempted CSC third degree. Cook said the court did not find probable cause for assault.

"We kind of figured that was coming so that's why we requested attempted CSC third," Weichel said.

Peasley was arrested on June 14 by Michigan State Police troopers on CSC charges. He also could stand trial in Alpena County on three counts of CSC in the fourth degree.

The charges in Alcona County are alleged to have taken place on June 7-8 while the youth was employed by Peasley in his real estate business. As part of her job she drove Peasley to different real estate sites and performed various tasks in the office.

According to the youth's testimony, on June 7, Peasley allegedly make sexual comments to her and touched the inside of her thigh and chest outside of her clothing while they were driving on US -23 after taking pictures of lake properties on Lakeshore Drive in Alcona County. She then asked him to stop what he was doing.

The youth said they stopped at a BP gas station in Harrisville to get fuel. While driving in the Barton City area Peasley allegedly rubbed the inside of her thigh and touched her inappropriately inside of her underwear. She



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Afterward she said she took Peasley home.

On June 8 the youth said she drove Peasley to a house in Barton City and took pictures of the interior of the house. While taking pictures in one of the bedrooms Peasley allegedly came up behind her, pulled down her pants and touched her with his genitals while making sexual comments to her. The youth told Peasley he needed to stop and she went out to the truck. Afterward she took Peasley home.

The youth said she told her ex-boyfriend and her best friend about the alleged events first, but didn't tell her parents right away.

"I've never been in a position like that before and I was scared," she said. "I felt disgusting and didn't know where to turn."

Peasley's lead counsel Michael Cronkright cross-examined about her recording conversations between her and Peasley, when Peasley allegedly began making sexual comments toward her and what she described to her therapist about the alleged incidents.

Cronkright also asked the youth to describe each incident in explicit detail.

Cronkright said the allegations are a fabrication which is what the defense will focus on in the cases in Alcona and Alpena counties.

"These series of allegations is nothing more than fabrication and a systematic attempt to get money from Mr. Peasley," he said.

If convicted Peasley faces a 10-year sentence for the attempted CSC third degree, a 15-year sentence for CSC third degree and a two-year sentence for CSC fourth degree. These sentences would be served concurrently, Weichel said.

A pre-trial hearing has been scheduled for Nov. 28 at 9 a.m. in 23rd Circuit Court.

Patty Ramus can be reached via e-mail at [pramus@thealpenanews.com](mailto:pramus@thealpenanews.com) or by phone at 354-3111 ext. 345.

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## **Welfare career program to expand to county**

HOMETOWN HEADLINES

**GENESEE COUNTY**

**THE FLINT JOURNAL FIRST EDITION**

Friday, October 06, 2006

**By Laura Misjak**

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GENESEE COUNTY - A welfare reform program started in four counties last year will expand to 15 more counties through 2007, including Genesee County. The expansion of the Jobs, Education and Training program, or JET, starts this month.

JET helps Michigan residents on welfare obtain job skills to start and retain a permanent career. The program provides services to support clients in pursuit of a career and help workers plan for advancement.

The state's Department of Human Services and Department of Labor & Economic Growth created JET. Information: [www.michigan.gov/jet](http://www.michigan.gov/jet).

- Laura Misjak

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## KALAMAZOO GAZETTE

### Youth shelter expanding operations in Kalamazoo

Friday, October 06, 2006

By Kathy Jessup

[kjessup@kalamazoogazette.com](mailto:kjessup@kalamazoogazette.com) 388-8590

A Kalamazoo residential center for homeless and runaway teenagers got the go-ahead Thursday to relocate and expand on the city's southwest side.

The city's Planning Commission approved a special-use permit that will allow Catholic Family Services' ARK program to move to 751 Pleasant Ave., property owned by the Catholic Diocese of Kalamazoo.

ARK – the only transitional-residence program for teens in a six-county area – is expected to begin work shortly to expand the Pleasant Avenue building and add a duplex residence on the 5.5-acre site that is located between Duke and Pembroke streets.

The youth shelter, serving an average 225 youths ages 10 to 17 per year, currently operates at 990 W. Kilgore, in a building adjacent to the Hackett Catholic Central High School campus. ARK officials called that site “inadequate and too cramped,” and Tim Eastman, Hackett principal, said the high school has plans to use the space.

Gloria Spoerl, a Catholic Family Services board member, said ARK opened in 1977 to provide temporary shelter, short-term counseling and follow-up services for youths who have run away or become homeless because of “significant conflict or hardships at home.”

“The goal is to reunite young people with their parents,” she said. “This is a voluntary shelter, so they both must agree to participate in this program. The average stay is 10 days, but it can go up to 14 days.”

There was no dissent during Thursday's public hearing on granting a permit for the special use in the predominantly single-family residential area. Instead, planning commissioners heard from court and community mental-health officials, an ARK counselor, a neighborhood resident, and a father and son who had used ARK services. They spoke in support of the request.

Spoerl said ARK does not admit youths with suicide, violence, drug or alcohol issues or teens who are in trouble with the police.

Thursday's approval includes plans to add about 4,200 square feet to the building that originally was constructed in 1967 as a two-level school. In addition, a new, 1,020-square-foot duplex will be built southwest of the main building to house older teens.

Anelyse Cotter, intake coordinator for Kalamazoo County's 9th Circuit Court, called ARK “a valuable resource for so many families that are in so much need.”

“These children need a chance to be safe and to know they are cared about, and their families need to know they are safe,” Cotter said.

The special-use permit does not require City Commission action. However, city building officials must approve the project's site plan before construction can begin.

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## KALAMAZOO GAZETTE

### Tax credit for food donations long overdue

Friday, October 06, 2006

#### From The Sturgis Journal

Over the course of last winter it became clear that many households in St. Joseph County needed help to pay for food.

Several programs designed to help families are in the works in St. Joseph County, including local food banks, an Angel Food program, a bread giveaway and many others.

Finally, those in Lansing are doing what they can to make it easier for generous citizens to help stock the shelves of needy families in our state.

A Senate bill is in the works to provide a tax credit for those who donate food; providing the same income tax credit for food donations to pantries, shelters and food kitchens as monetary donations.

Sen. Valde Garcia, R-Howell, a sponsor of the legislation, said he was surprised that a write-off doesn't already exist for food donations.

We were surprised as well.

The issue was brought to the attention of Sen. Jason Allen, R-Traverse City, the primary sponsor, by a constituent who filed his taxes and noticed only money donations counted as a write-off, said Joe Agostinelle, Allen's legislative assistant.

Other sponsors include Republican Sens. Patricia Birkholz of Allegan County's Saugatuck Township, Wayne Kuipers of Holland and Cameron Brown of St. Joseph County's Fawn River Township.

Donations help organizations continue their work in the community and more and more families are becoming dependent on food pantries because of unemployment and costs of living and factories shutting down.

This could be a win-win situation for both the donors and the recipients.

As we head into the winter months, holidays and colder temperatures, food banks and other programs in our area will see demand rise.

These programs struggle because the need is so great. This deduction could help keep the shelves from becoming bare in the future.

Of course, monetary donations are always needed and welcome, but often times a good meal can do wonders for someone struggling to feed their family.

If the legislation passes, 50 percent of food donations could be credited against taxes, but deductions cannot exceed \$100 for a single return or \$200 for a joint return.

The bill is pending in the Senate Finance Committee.



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